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40. (New) An agent according to claim 37, which

- has oral pesticidal activity against *Pieris brassicae*, *Pieris rapae* and *Plutella xylostella*,
- is substantially heat stable to 550C,
- acts synergistically with *B. thuringiensis* cells as an oral pesticide,
- is substantially resistant to proteolysis by trypsin and proteinase K, and
- has its pesticidal activity substantially destroyed by treatment with sodium dodecyl sulphate or acetone on heating to 80°C.

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41. (New) A pesticidal composition comprising an agent according to claim 37.

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42. (New) A composition according to claim 41 which comprises a further pesticidal material not obtainable from *Xenorhabdus*.

43. (New) A composition according to claim 42 wherein the said further pesticidal material comprises a material obtainable from *B. thuringiensis*.

44. (New) A composition according to claim 43 which further comprises cells of *B. thuringiensis*.

45. (New) A composition according to claim 44 wherein the pesticidal material obtainable from *B. thuringiensis* comprises the delta endotoxin.

Sub C 1 46. (New) A composition according to claim 41 which further comprises an agriculturally acceptable carrier.

47. (New) A composition according to claim 46, wherein the carrier comprises items of insect diet.

Sub C 2 48. (New) A method for killing or controlling insect pests, which method comprises administering to a pest or the environment thereof a composition according to claim 41.

Sub C 3 49. (New) A method according to claim 48, wherein the pests are insects from the order Lepidoptera or Diptera.

50. (New) A method for killing or controlling insect pests, which method comprises administering orally to the insect a composition according to claim 5.

51. (New) A method for killing or controlling insect pests, which method comprises administering orally to a pest a microorganism composition comprising *Xenorhabdus* strain NCIMB 40886, strain NCIMB 40887, or strain ATCC 19061, or the supernatant taken from cultures of any of said strains.

52. (New) A method as claimed in claim 51, wherein the pests are insects from the order Lepidoptera or Diptera.

53. (New) A method as claimed in claim 51, wherein the composition comprises a further pesticidal material not obtainable from *Xenorhabdus*.

54. (New) A method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the said further pesticidal material comprises a material obtainable from *B. thuringiensis*.

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cont 55. (New) A method as claimed in claim 54, wherein the composition further comprises cells of *B. thuringiensis*.

56. (New) A method as claimed in claim 54, wherein the pesticidal material obtainable from *B. thuringiensis* comprises the delta endotoxin.

57. (New) A method as claimed in claim 51, wherein the composition further comprises an agriculturally acceptable carrier.

58. (New) A method as claimed in claim 57, wherein the carrier comprises items of insect diet.

Please cancel claims 1-36.